

SENATE BILL NO. 136

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ESLINGER.

0560S.02I

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 167.903, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to workforce development in elementary and secondary education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 167.903, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 167.903 and 167.907, to read as follows:

167.903. 1. **The department of elementary and secondary education shall establish a process by which** each student prior to **[his or her]the student's** ninth grade year at a public school, including a charter school, **[may]shall** develop with help from the **student's parent or guardian and the school's [guidance] counselors [a personal]an individual career and academic plan [of study]**, which shall be reviewed **[regularly, as needed]annually** by school personnel and the student's parent or guardian and updated based upon the needs of the student. Each plan shall present a sequence of courses and experiences that conclude with the student reaching **[his or her]the student's** postsecondary goals, with implementation of the plan of study transferring to the program of postsecondary education or training upon the student's high school graduation. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Requirements for graduation from the school district or charter school;

EXPLANATION-Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

19 (2) Career or postsecondary goals;

20 (3) Coursework or program of study related to career
21 and postsecondary goals, which shall include, if relevant,
22 opportunities that the district or school may not directly
23 offer;

24 (4) Grade-appropriate and career-related experiences,
25 as outlined in the grade-level expectations of the Missouri
26 comprehensive guidance program; and

27 (5) Student assessments, interest inventories, or
28 academic results needed to develop, review, and revise the
29 personal plan of study, which shall include, if relevant,
30 assessments, inventories, or academic results that the
31 school district or charter school may not offer.

32 2. Each school district shall adopt a policy to permit
33 the waiver of the requirements of this section for any
34 student with a disability if recommended by the student's
35 IEP committee. For purposes of this subsection, "IEP" means
36 individualized education program.

37 **3. Prior to the completion of the second semester of**
38 **the student's twelfth-grade year, each student shall**
39 **include, as part of the student's individual career and**
40 **academic plan, a declaration of the student's postsecondary**
41 **plans including, but not limited to, the following:**

42 (1) Confirmation of employment upon graduation;

43 (2) Acceptance to an institution of higher education,
44 whether a two-year institution or a four-year institution;

45 (3) Acceptance to participate in a vocational,
46 technical, or other training program designed to prepare the
47 student for employment; or

48 (4) Commitment to enlist in the Armed Forces of the
49 United States.

167.907. 1. Beginning July 1, 2024, each school district shall establish a process in which a student completes and submits the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, as maintained by the United States Department of Education.

2. A student or a student's parent or guardian may decline completing or submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid under subsection 1 of this section if such student submits to the student's school:

(1) A written confirmation of a commitment to enlist in the Armed Forces of the United States; or

(2) A written confirmation signed by the student or student's parent or guardian attesting that the student understands what the application is and has chosen not to file such application.

3. At any time, the superintendent or superintendent's designee shall exempt such student from any requirement to complete or submit the application if such student is unable to complete the application because of extenuating circumstances as determined by the local district.

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